

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 232500

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SUBJECT: COUNSELOR NIMETZ CONVERSATION WITH FRANK JUDD IN
CYPRUS

1. FOLLOWING SEPT. 11 LONDON FOUR-POWER DISCUSSION OF
CYPRUS, COUNSELOR NIMETZ CALLED ON U.N. FCO MINISTER OF
STATE FRANK JUDD. HIBBERT AND EWING WERE ALSO PRESENT.
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NIMETZ SUMMARIZED HIS RECENT VISIT TO CYPRUS, NOTING HE
HAD DETECTED INDICATIONS OF MORE FLEXIBILITY DESPITE WIDE
GAP IN POSITIONS. CLEARLY EXTERNAL ELEMENT WAS NEEDED TO
GIVE PUSH TOWARD TALKS. NIMETZ NOTED WE HAD CLEAR COMMIT-
MENT WORK ON CYPRUS PROBLEM BUT WE WERE ALSO ANXIOUS SORT
OUT OUR BILATERAL RELATIONSHIPS WITH GREECE AND TURKEY.
THERE WERE SIGNIFICANT RISKS OF A MAJOR PUBLIC STEP ON

CYPRUS WHICH COULD HEIGHTEN ANTAGONISM IN AREA RATHER THAN MAKING CONTRIBUTION TOWARD PROGRESS. IN-ANY EVENT, WE FELT NOTHING SHOULD BE DONE UNTIL TURKISH EMBARGO IS FORMALLY LIFTED IN FEW WEEKS. NIMETZ NOTED THAT AT MEETING EARLIER IN DAY BOTH FRANCE AND FRG HAD BEEN WARY ABOUT A POSSIBLE WESTERN GROUP CYPRUS INITIATIVE AND WERE ALSO BOTH RELUCTANT TO ASSOCIATE CANADA WITH CONSIDERATION OF ANY SUCH INITIATIVE.

2. JUDD SAID HE WAS CONVINCED THAT PRESENT TURKISH LEADERSHIP SAW THEIR INTEREST SERVED BY A CYPRUS SOLUTION; HE ALSO THOUGHT THE GREEK CYPRIOTS RAN THE RISK OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY COMING TO BELIEVE THAT BY REFUSING TO TALK THE GOC WAS INTRANSIGENT OR WORLD MIGHT JUST TIRE OF THE CYPRUS PROBLEM. JUDD SAID IT WAS HIS FEELING THEREFORE THAT WHILE THERE SHOULD NOT BE A NEW "INITIATIVE" NOR SHOULD A SITUATION BE CREATED AS RESULT OF AN OUTSIDE EFFORT WHICH WAS WORSE THAN THE EXISTING SITUATION, THERE MIGHT WELL BE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR GOOD OFFICES ACTIVITY WHICH WOULD DRAW UPON A BANK OF IDEAS DEVELOPED BY A GROUP SUCH AS THAT DISCUSSED TODAY. HE BELIEVED THAT THE PRESENT APPROACH OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL WOULD NOT MOVE MATTERS ALONG.

3. NIMETZ NOTED THE GREEK CYPRIOT SUGGESTION OF SOME NEW PERSON BEING DESIGNATED BY WALDHEIM AS HIS PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE. NIMETZ SAID HE BELIEVED THAT THE GREEK CYPRIOTS WERE NOT INTERESTED IN SUCH A PERSON BEING DESIGNATED BY WALDHEIM AS HIS PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE. NIMETZ SAID HE BELIEVED THAT THE GREEK CYPRIOTS WERE NOT INTERESTED IN SUCH A PERSON BEING DESIGNATED BY WALDHEIM AS HIS PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE.

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SENTATIVE TO LAY THE GROUNDWORK FOR TALKS THROUGH GREATER ACTIVITY. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HIBBERT AND OTHERS WERE SKEPTICAL ABOUT SUCH AN IDEA. CLEARLY SUCH A PERSON COULD BE FED IDEAS BY OTHERS WHO COULD ACT BEHIND THE SCENES DIPLOMATICALLY. THE GREEK CYPRIOTS CONTINUED TO PUT GREAT STRESS ON THE UNSYG AND WERE LIKELY TO RESIST ANY "OUTFRONT" ACTIVITY BY NATO COUNTRIES.

4. IN RESPONSE TO JUDD'S QUESTIONS, HIBBERT SAID HE FELT THE FOUR-POWER DISCUSSION HAD GONE POORLY LARGELY DUE TO THE FRENCH REP (MERILLON) GENERALLY TAKING A NEGATIVE POSITION ON WHETHER ANY GROUP CYPRUS INITIATIVE WOULD BE USEFUL. MERILLON HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO AGREE TO FRENCH PARTICIPATION EITHER IN A WORKING GROUP ON THE SUBSTANCE OF A BASKET OF IDEAS OR FURTHER POLITICAL DIRECTOR-LEVEL CONSIDERATION OF SUCH QUESTIONS AS THE FORM, TIMING, AND APPROPRIATENESS OF A WESTERN CYPRUS INITIATIVE. BOTH ASPECTS WOULD BE GIVEN FURTHER CONSIDERATION IN PARIS. HE HAD ALSO RESISTED CANADIAN PARTICIPATION, PUSHED THE NOTION OF PREDOMINANT MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRY INVOLVEMENT IN THE CYPRUS QUESTION, AND SUGGESTED A POSSIBLE ROLE FOR ITALY. HIBBERT SAID THAT THE FRG REP (BLECH) WAS NOT SURE WHAT

POSITION GENSCHER WOULD TAKE IF FRANCE OPTED OUT BUT HIBBERT THOUGHT FRG PARTICIPATION WAS POSSIBLE EVEN UNDER SUCH A CIRCUMSTANCE. NIMETZ CONFIRMED THAT WITHOUT BEING COMMITTED TO AN EVENTUAL "INITIATIVE" THE U.S. WAS AGREEABLE BOTH TO FURTHER TECHNICAL-LEVEL WORK ON SUBSTANCE AND TO POLITICAL DIRECTOR-LEVEL DISCUSSION.

5. NIMETZ NOTED THAT CYPRIOTS STILL DESIRED A KYPRIANOU/ECEVIT MEETING AS A MEANS OF PROMOTING RESUMPTION OF TALKS. DESPITE ALL THE PROBLEMS JUDD SAID HE THOUGHT A KYPRIANOU-ECEVIT-DENKTASH MEETING MIGHT BE USEFUL IF OUTSIDE POWERS GAVE AN IMPETUS AND HELPED TO INDICATE WHAT COULD COME OUT OF SUCH A MEETING.

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6. NIMETZ SAID IN HIS VIEW THE TURKISH SIDE DID WANT TO TALK ABOUT PRACTICAL ISSUES AND WOULD SHOW FLEXIBILITY AT THE TABLE BUT WOULD NOT MAKE NEW PROPOSALS JUST TO GET TALKS GOING. HE THOUGHT THAT UNTIL EMBARGO WAS FORMALLY LIFTED ANY PUBLIC CYPRUS ACTIVITY SHOULD BE HELD IN RESERVE BUT INTERNAL WORK COULD COMMENCE. WE WERE ANXIOUS TO IMPROVE OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH TURKEY AND GREECE BUT WE ALSO HAD STRONG ONGOING COMMITMENT WORK ON CYPRUS. IN ADDITION, WE BELIEVED THAT THE LONGER NOTHING HAPPENED, THE GREATER THE RISK OF AN EVENTUAL DETERIORATION OF THE PRESENT FESTERING SITUATION. JUDD AGREED THAT WE SHOULD NOT MISS ANY CHANCE. WHILE THERE WAS REAL URGENCY TO PUSH AHEAD HE SAW NO PROBLEM OF WAITING UNTIL OCTOBER AND ADMITTED THAT THE BRITISH ANXIETY OF A FEW WEEKS AGO TO MOVE QUICKLY ON CYPRUS HAD PARTLY BEEN RELATED TO A LIKELY OCTOBER GENERAL ELECTION. HE NOTED THAT WITH GREEK EC ENTRY THE COMMUNITY WOULD BE EVEN MORE IN THE MIDDLE OF EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN QUESTION; THERE WAS ALSO CONCERN ABOUT THE EFFECT ON NATO AND ON GREEK-TURKISH RELATIONS. HE REPEATED THAT THE CYPRUS PROBLEM COULD NOT BE IGNORED BY THE WEST AND THAT THE DOMESTIC TURKISH POLITICAL SCENE MADE THIS THE RIGHT TIME TO MOVE ON CYPRUS IF A RIGHT DEVICE COULD BE FOUND. NIMETZ SAID WE WERE PREPARED TO ENGAGE IN WELL FORMULATED ACTIVITY WITH THE U.K. AND OTHERS. HE ALSO THOUGHT VAROSHA, AN EXPANDED SECRETARY GENERAL INTERMEDIARY ROLE, OR A POSSIBLE WELL-PREPARED KYPRIANOU-ECEVIT-DENKTASH MEETING ALL COULD CONCEIVABLY PROVIDE OPENINGS. IN CONCLUSION, NIMETZ SAID THE FOUR-POWER EXCHANGE HAD BEEN USEFUL AND IT WAS IMPORTANT TO KEEP IN TOUCH. CHRISTOPHER

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